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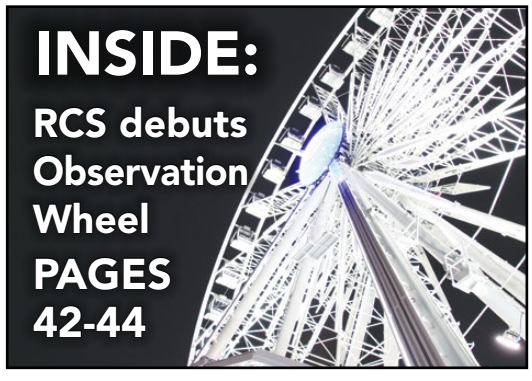

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Great Coasters unleashes two thrilling woodies

InvadR lands at Busch Williamsburg as park's eighth coaster

AT: *B. Derek Shaw*
bdshaw@amusementtoday.com

WILLIAMSBURG, Va. — Amid the pomp and circumstance of Viking-themed regalia, InvadR opened to the public at Busch Gardens Williamsburg on April 8. The ride, a Great Coasters, International, Inc. (GCII) designed intermediate-sized twister, was built between the entrance to the New France train station and Le Scoot Log Flume in that section of the property.

The ride is a fit for all family members from kids to teenagers, mom and dad and grandma and grandpa. "It has everything that

Busch Gardens Williamsburg park president David Cromwell welcomes guests to the InvadR opening ceremonies. COURTESY BUSCH GARDENS

everybody wants on this ride," said Clair Hain, Jr., President of GCII. He continued, "There's nothing on here that is dangerous — you don't have to worry about being thrown around or getting hurt. It's very smooth with quick change of directions — a lot of snappiness." Fans agree with Hain that InvadR is a fun, fast, smooth ride providing an out-of-control feeling in a very safe, controlled environment.

Crowdsourcing via social media was the mantra for this ride from the very beginning. InvadR, Viking Raider and Battle Klash were three potential coaster names that were vetted by the park and presented to fans

▸ See INVADR, page 6

A Viking actor portraying Magnus The Red takes a front seat ride on the new InvadR at Busch Gardens. COURTESY BUSCH GARDENS WILLIAMSBURG

Kings Island Introduced its newest wooden roller coaster with the debut of Mystic Timbers on April 13. The Great Coasters product features 16 airtime hills, 197 feet of overall drop and a mystery shed at the ride's end produced by Holovis. COURTESY KINGS ISLAND

What's in the Shed? Kings Island's Mystic Timbers debuts

AT: *Tim Baldwin*
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MASON, Ohio — Kings Island is no stranger to building world-famous roller coasters. From the captivating Racer when the park opened in 1972 to The Beast — which still holds the record for world's longest wooden coaster — renowned thrillers have been a hallmark of the park for more than four decades.

Officially opening to the public on April 15, Mystic Timbers is the latest crowd-pleaser. Built by Great Coasters International, Inc. (GCII), the coaster is the company's latest project for Cedar Fair, following hits at Valleyfair, Worlds of Fun, California's Great America and, most recently, the revamp of Knott's Berry Farm's GhostRider.

"Cedar Fair has had an incredible partnership with Great Coasters," said Adam House, senior design engineer, GCII. "It makes the designing and building process so streamlined when the customer knows what they want and what they are getting. From the initial project discussion to the point where the corporate guys show up to ride, it just seems so smooth and seamless. "

"I think Mystic Timbers brings the modern-day wooden roller coaster to Kings Island, where The Racer and The Beast were built in the '70s," said Don Helbig, public relations area manager, Kings Island. "GCII brings different technology for our guests."

The thematic slant to the new ride involves "mysterious circumstances" dating back to the 1980s at the Miami River Lumber Company on the edge of Rivertown. Despite the audio and posted warnings to stay out — and certainly: Don't go in to the Shed — guests, of course, insist on forging on in their

▸ See MYSTIC, page 8

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NEWSTALK

EDITORIAL: *Gary Slade, gslade@amusementtoday.com*

Coasters being designed for family-friendly thrills

Slade

Is the North American roller coaster record-setting arms race over for a while? It would certainly appear so as the selection of new coasters opening across the U.S. this season is far from the record books. A new "family first" approach in thrills is the new trend as engineers and designers plug in smaller designs that still generate the requested thrills, and now slower speeds, the parks are seeking.

New this season are two new wooden thrillers from Great Coasters International, Inc. (GCII), that top out at speeds of only 48 mph on InvadR at Busch Gardens Williamsburg and 53 mph on Mystic Timbers at Kings Island.

California's Great America transformed its B&M stand-up coaster into the more family-friendly Patriot floorless coaster with great fanfare.

Later this spring/summer the U.S. will see:

•Wave Breaker: The Rescue Coaster at SeaWorld San Antonio is from Intamin. It will launch guests with a maximum speed of 44 mph and take riders on a course over the park's signature lake.

•The Gravity Group-designed Mine Blower is a super-compact wooden coaster currently under construction at Fun Spot Kissimmee. It will feature a family-friendly compact layout.

•S&S is supplying 4D Free Spin coasters to three Six Flags parks as well as debuting its GaleForce launch coaster at Playland's Castaway Cove in Ocean City, N.J.

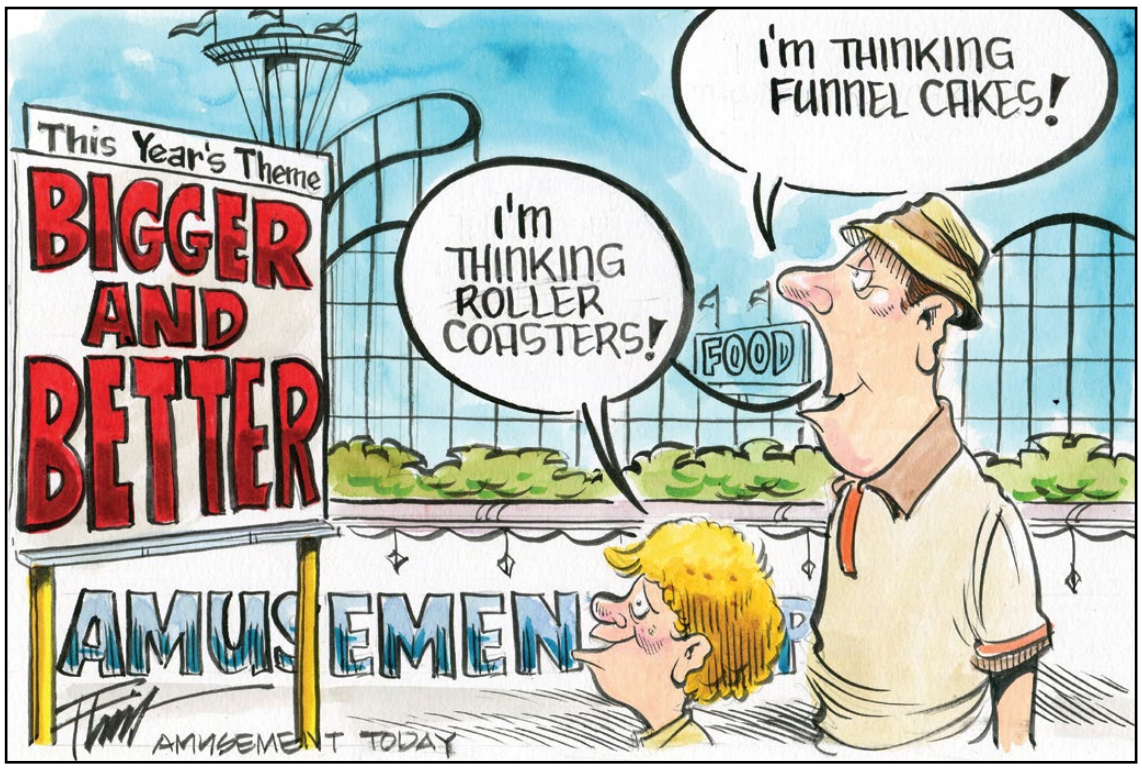
•Lake Compounce turned to Martin & Vleminckx for new trackwork on the historic Wildcat wooden coaster while also outfitting the ride with new trains from GCII.

•Joyland Park in Lubbock, Texas, retired its aging Miler kiddie coaster with a newer Wisdom Dragon coaster, relocated from Santa's Village near Chicago.

The new coaster designs are proving that bigger is not always better and that thrills can indeed come in all sizes.

For a complete list of all the new-for-2017 projects around the globe, be sure to check out *AT*'s annual Amusement Industry Preview, compiled by Jeffrey Seifert, on pages 10 and 12 (North America) and pages 14 and 16 (International).

FLINT'S VIEW: *Bubba Flint*



INDUSTRY OPINION: *Dean Lamanna, dlamanna@amusementtoday.com*

U.S. administration fuels foreign tourism fears

Lamanna

The summer high season is almost here. And with hundreds of millions of dollars in new technologies and attractions being introduced, optimism and expectation in the amusement industry have, indeed, never been higher.

Our business has rebounded from the recession. The American economy, as of this writing, is strong. People are seeking fun and escape more than ever. Nothing to worry about, right?

Not according to travel industry observers, who see signs of what they've dubbed the "Trump Slump" — a foreign tourism fall-off. They say it is the result of Donald J. Trump's tough presidential campaign rhetoric and his administration's push to implement a temporary U.S. travel ban on refugees and immigrants from countries deemed terrorism hot spots.

Beyond any partisan debate, this is a problem of perception.

Travel guru Arthur Frommer sounded the alarm in February, declaring that "most travel experts are of one mind: They are currently drawing attention to the unintended consequences of the Trump-led efforts… pointing to a sharp drop in foreign tourism to our nation that imperils jobs and touristic income."

At the end of January, the travel statisticians at ForwardKeys.com reported an 80 percent plummet in flight passengers from the seven Muslim-majority countries listed in President Trump's original executive order, while *Travel Weekly* pegged the overall drop in incoming foreign visitors at almost seven percent. Forbes.com noted a 12 percent dive in European tourist interest alone.

Any persistence of such numbers for a country that saw an estimated 77.5 million international visitor arrivals in 2015, Frommer said, "would reduce the value of foreign travel within the U.S. by billions of dollars." (Over $7 billion, by one estimate.)

Repercussions on the amusement industry are most likely to be felt in Central Florida and Southern California, where foreign visitors represent a significant theme park and attractions admissions percentage. A much-wider impact, though, may be felt by allied companies and workers.

How our business will fare stateside remains to be seen. But it's not a leap to predict that a viral view of the U.S. as unwelcoming won't be good for some domestic industries — particularly those that depend in part on international tourism, not to mention American cultural appeal and goodwill.

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2017 AMUSEMENT INDUSTRY PREVIEW | NORTH AMERICA

Compiled by Jeffrey Seifert

CANADA

Alberta

Galaxyland, Edmonton...Zero Gravity — Chance Rides Unicoaster

British Columbia

Playland, Vancouver...Bug Whirled — SBF Visa compact spinning coaster; Moser Rides 10-meter tower ride; Flutterbye — Zamperla Magic Bikes

Ontario

Canada's Wonderland, Vaughan...Soaring Timbers — Mondial Inferno; Muskego Plunge — SplashTacular body slides including DrenalinDrop capsule
Santa's Village, Bracebridge…SBF/Visa Triple spiral spinning coaster
Wild Water Kingdom, Brampton…Reopening of closed water park; two ProSlide RideHouse waterplay structures

Québec

Camping Atlantide, Saint-Calixte…Polin Space Hole and Wave Slide
Bora Parc, Valcartier…New indoor water park (December 2016) with ADG/WhiteWater attractions including body slides with AquaDrop capsules.
La Ronde, Montreal…Titan — Zamperla Giant Discovery
Pays des Merveille, Sainte-Adèle…E&F Miler family coaster relocated from Fort Jefferson Fun Park

MEXICO

Morelos

Six Flags Oaxtepec, Oaxtepec… Re-opened park; ProSlide three new attractions

UNITED STATES

Alabama

Owa, Foley…New park, Rollin' Thunder — Zamperla Thunderbolt coaster; Zamperla gravity coaster; Zamperla Twister coaster; 21 Zamperla rides
Spring Valley Beach, Blountsville…ProSlide Twister x3

Arizona

Wet 'n' Wild Phoenix, Glendale…WhiteWater West AquaPlay

California

California's Great America, Santa Clara…Patriot — conversion of B&M standup coaster to floorless coaster
Disney California Adventure, Anaheim…Guardians of the Galaxy — Mission: Breakout — remake of former Tower of Terror elevator ride
Emerald Glen Aquatic Facility, Dublin…New facility with indoor and outdoor pools; WhiteWater West Champagne Bowl, AquaDrop, SpeedSlide, AquaPlay, 3 body slides
Knott's Berry Farm, Buena Park…Sol Spin — Mondial Top Scan
Knott's Soak City, Buena Park…Shore Break — Whitewater West Colorado Drop and Flatline Loop; The Wedge — WhiteWater 6-person open-flume raft ride
Legoland California, Carlsbad…Surfer's Bay — WhiteWater West 6-lane mat racer; sprayground; Lego Star Wars: The Force Awakens miniland addition
Pacific Park, Santa Monica…Shark Frenzy — custom-designed Larson Tilt-A-Whirl
Santa Ana Zoo, Santa Ana…50 Monkeys Ferris wheel — Chance Wheel with custom-thatched roof gondolas
Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk, Santa Cruz…New main entrance; Shockwave — Zamperla Mega Disk'O; Typhoon — ARM double-arm swing ride; Fright Walk — haunted walk through under the boardwalk
SeaWorld San Diego, San Diego…Ocean Explorer — new themed area with Submarine Quest — Chance Rides electric vehicle submarine simulation; plus five new themed flat rides
Six Flags Discovery Kingdom, Vallejo…Wonder Woman Lasso of Truth — Zamperla Giant Discovery
Six Flags Magic Mountain, Valencia…Justice League: Battle for Metropolis — SallyCorp, Alterface, Oceaneering dark ride
Wild Water Adventure, Clovis…WhiteWater West speed slide

Colorado

Banana's Fun Park, Grand Junction…Coconut Cove — WhiteWater West AquaPlay, AquaSpray, & Spray Features
Elitch Gardens, Denver…Star Flyer; Mega Wedgie — WhiteWater West Body Slide, Freefall Plus, Speed Slide
Glenwood Caverns Adventure Park, Glenwood Springs…The Haunted Mine Drop — Drop Ride designed by Stan Checketts
Great Wolf Lodge Colorado Springs, Colorado Springs…New water park with ADG/WhiteWater attractions (opened Dec 2016)

Connecticut

Lake Compounce, Bristol…Martin & Vleminckx retracking on Boulder Dash and Wildcat roller coaster; New GCII trains on Wildcat; Ghost Hunt upgrade of shooters, targeting and scoring system from Lagotronics
Quassy Amusement Park, Middlebury…SBF/Visa mini Pirate Ship

Florida

Daytona Lagoon, Daytona Beach…Enhanced indoor Lazer Tag arena, interactive ropes course
Disney's Animal Kingdom, Orlando…Pandora - World of Avatar — new themed land with Avatar Flight of Passage 3-D flight simulator; Na'vi River Journey — indoor boat ride
Disney's Typhoon Lagoon, Orlando…ProSlide Power River
Fun Spot America, Kissimmee…Mine Blower — Gravity Group wooden coaster
Gaylord Palms Resort, Orlando…ADG Flowrider double and waterslides
Gulfstream Park, Hallandale…Chance Rides 36' custom carousel
Legoland Florida, Winter Haven…New Ninjago World themed area with Ninjago The Ride — TrioTech interactive dark ride, Beach Retreat resort accomodations
Old Town, Kissimmee…Fabbri wheel
Sun Splash, Cape Coral…Pirate's Cove — interactive water play structure
Universal Studios Florida, Orlando…Race Through New York Starring Jimmy Fallon — 3-D flying theater
Universal's Volcano Bay, Orlando…New water park with 18 ProSlide attractions including RocketBlast water coaster

Georgia

Rigby's Water World, Warner Robins…New water park for existing FEC; WhiteWater West AquaPlay, AquaSpray, Mini Body Slide, Wave River, Boomerango, champagne bowl, Aquatube
Six Flags Over Georgia, Austel…Justice League: Battle for Metropolis — SallyCorp, Alterface, Oceaneering dark ride
Wild Adventures, Valdosta…Ohana Bay — ProSlide Kidz ProRacer, Kidz MiniRiver, Kidz MiniRiver, Kidz Twister, Kidz Twister, Twister x2

Hawaii

Wailea Beach Resort - Marriott, Kihei…WhiteWater West body slides

Illinois

Deep River Waterpark, Merrillville…Kraken — ProSlide 6-lane KrakenRacer
Fox Valley, Aurora…Chance Rides C.P. Huntington train
Santa's Village AZoosment Park, Dundee…Super Cyclone — Interpark Cyclon coaster
Six Flags Great America, Gurnee…Joker — S&S 4-D coaster

Indiana

Holiday World, Santa Claus…The Raven and The Legend — PTCI overhaul of coaster trains; Firecracker — refurbished Calypso

Kansas

Parrot Cove, Garden City…New water park with ADG/WhiteWater attractions (opened Dec 2016)

Kentucky

Kentucky Kingdom, Louisville…Thunder Run — New PTCI coaster train; Eye of the Storm - Larson Giant Loop

Maryland

Six Flags America, Upper Marlboro…Wonder Woman Lasso of Truth — FunTime Star Flyer; Roar and Wildcat — PTCI overhaul of coaster trains
Splash Mountain Waterpark, Ocean City…WhiteWater West AquaPlay

Massachusetts

Ecotarium, Worcester…Chance Rides C.P. Huntington train
Edaville USA, Carver…Kersplash — E&F Miler water coaster relocated from Washington State Fair
Six Flags New England, Agawam…Joker — S&S 4-D coaster
Southwick Zoo, Mendon…Soaring Eagle Zipline Ride

Missouri

Bigfoot on the Strip, Branson…New Bigfoot-themed entertainment center with a Bigfoot Action Tower — Soaring Eagle 200-foot drop tower; Bigfoot Adventure Golf, Bigfoot Adventure Maze, Bigfoot Discovery Expedition; interactive cineman, arcade
Six Flags St. Louis, Eureka…Spinsanity — Zamperla Mega Disk'O
Worlds of Fun, Kansas City…Mustang Runner — Huss Troika; Falcon's Flight — Huss Condor

New Jersey

Casino Pier, Seaside Heights…Hydrus — Gerstlauer custom Euro-Fighter 320
Clementon Lake Park, Clementon…HellCat — PTCI overhaul of coaster trains
Morey's Piers, Wildwood…Great Nor'Easter — Complete retracking of SLC coaster with new Vekoma track
Playland's Castaway Cove, Ocean City…GaleForce — S&S multi-element steel coaster; Wild Waves — E&F Miler steel coaster; Chance Rides C.P. Huntington train
Six Flags Great Adventure, Jackson…Justice League: Battle for Metropolis — SallyCorp, Alterface, Oceaneering dark ride

New York

Adventureland, East Farmingdale…IRG/Gosetto two-level dark ride
Peek'n Peak Resort, Clymer…Soaring Eagle Zipline Ride
Seabreeze, Rochester…Time Machine — Technical Park Super Miami
Six Flags Great Escape, Queensbury…Bonzai Pipelines — ProSlide Twister x2
The Castle Fun Center, Chester…Soaring Eagle Zipline Ride

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North Carolina

Carowinds, Charlotte…Do-Si-Do — Huss Troika; Electro-Spin — Mondial Top Scan; Rock'N'Roller — Mack Musik Express; Zephyr — Zierer Wave Swinger

City Lake Park, High Point…Chance Rides C.P. Huntington train

H2OBX, Powells Point…New water park with ADG Adventure Lagoon, Twin Tides; WhiteWater Boomerango, Flatline Loop, AquaDrop, 3-line Multi-lane kids, Mini Body Slide

North Carolina Museum of Life and Science, Durham…Chance Rides C.P. Huntington train

Ohio

Cedar Point, Sandusky…Cedar Point Shores — rebranded park (former Soak City); WhiteWater West Mini Body Slide, Flatline Loop and Colorado Drop Slide; Blue Streak — PTCI overhaul of coaster trains

Kalahari Sandusky, Sandusky…ProSlide TornadoWave 45,FlyingSaucer 30, Tornado 24/ Tornado 24 (Hybrid), Twister, TurboTwister with SkyBox

Kings Island, Kings Mills…Mystic Timbers — GCII wooden coaster

Oklahoma

Frontier City, Oklahoma City…Wildcat — PTCI overhaul of coaster trains; Gully Washer — ProSlide Twister slides x3

Pennsylvania

Dorney Park, Allentown…Thunderhawk — PTCI overhaul of coaster trains; Kaleidoscope — Huss Troika

Dutch Wonderland, Lancaster…Merlin's Mayhem — S&S suspended coaster

Hersheypark, Hershey…S&S Worldwide Triple Tower Complex

Kalahari Poconos, Pocono Summit…ProSlide Tornado 60, Mammoth, Pipeline with Explosion, CannonBowl, FreeFall, TurboTwister with SkyBox, Pipeline, Pipeline,4-lane OctopusRacer, Kidz ProRacer, Kidz MiniRiver, Kidz Twister, ProRacer, Kidz MiniRiver, Kidz Twister

Knoebels Amusement Resort, Elysburg…Over the Top — SBF Visa Wave Rider

Waldameer Park, Erie…Battle of Lake Erie - custom-themed ProSlide Ridehouse 500; The Vault - Funovation lazer maze challenge

Rhode Island

Roger Williams Zoo, Providence…Soaring Eagle Zipline Ride

Tennessee

Dollywood, Pigeon Forge…Whistle Punk Chaser — Zamperla family coaster; Drop Line — Funtime drop tower; Tailspin Racer — WhiteWater West 6-lane Whizzard

Nashville Shores Waterpark, Hermitage…Barefootin' Bay — WhiteWater West AquaPlay

The Island, Pigeon Forge…SBF Visa Wave Rider

Wilderness at the Smokies, Sevierville…WhiteWater West Aquaplay, ramp slide, mini multi-lane, mini body slide; Cataloochie Creek adventure golf

Texas

Epic Waters, Grand Prairie…New indoor water park; WhiteWater West FlowRider Double, AquaPlays, Fusion Boomerango + Constrictor, Freefall, Waves, Whizzard, AquaSphere, AquaLoop, AquaTube

Joyland, Lubbock…Wisdom Rides family Dragon Coaster

Kemah Boardwalk, Kemah…Hypnospin — Larson Tilt-A-Whirl; Boardwalk Bullet — PTCI overhaul of coaster trains

Morgan's Wonderland, San Antonio…New ultra-accessible water park with multiple attractions from WhiteWater West

Royal Splash Texas, Plainview…New water park with multiple slides from Advanced Coatings; relocated slides from Splash Amarillo

SeaWorld San Antonio, San Antonio…Wave Breaker: The Rescue Coaster — Intamin LSM-launched coaster

Six Flags Fiesta Texas, San Antonio…Thunder Rapids Water Coaster — ProSlide Rocket Blast/Fying Saucer; Celebrate — reimagined and enlarged night spectacular

Six Flags Over Texas, Arlington…Joker — S&S 4-D coaster

Splashway Water Park, Sheridan…ProSlide TornadoWave 60, Mammoth, TornadoWave 60, RideHouse 100, CannonBowl 30, TurboTwister with SkyBox, TurboTwister with SkyBox, Pipeline, 4-lane OctopusRacer, Kidz Twister x2, Kidz MiniRiver x2

Trader's Village, Grand Prairie**…**Village Vortex — Larson Loop; Chance Rides Wipeout and YoYo

Typhoon Texas, Pflugerville…Rebranded park (former Hawaiian Falls); WhiteWater West AquaPlay

Wet 'n' Wild Splashtown, Spring…Alien Chaser — ProSlide FlyingSaucer 30

Wet 'n' Wild WaterWorld, Anthony…WhiteWater West 4-person open-flume raft ride

Wonderland Park, Amarillo...Refurbished Huss Air Boat flat ride

ZDT's Amusement Park, Seguin…ThunderVolt Speedway Go Karts — Amusement Products electric go karts with turbo boost

Virginia

Busch Gardens Williamsburg, Williamsburg…InvadR — GCII wooden coaster

Wisconsin

Action City Trampoline Park, Eau Claire…Soaring Eagle Zipline Ride

TRAVELING SHOWS

All Around Amusements…Kolmax bumper cars, Kolmax Tea Cups; Owen Trailers Infernal Combustion

Amusements of America…Kolmax Tea Cups

Arnold Amusements…Downdraft Zero Gravity

Bates Brothers…Journey to Mars — VR augmentation to ARM drop tower

Blue Sky Amusements…Widsom Rides Polar Express

Crescent City Amusements…KMG Rock It

D.C. Lynch Shows…Luna-Park Ferris wheel

Frasier Shows…Luna-Park carousel

Funtime Shows…Kolmax Flying Elephants

Great American Midway Entertainment…Jung Max Rides Choo Choo Train

Jack Jeffrey…Luna-Park Ferris wheel

James Gang Amusements…Luna-Park Ferris wheel

Lisko Family Midway Amusements…Luna-Park Ferris wheel

Mac's Carnival and Attractions…Flachs Rides Ferris wheel

Newton Shows…Luna-Park carousel

PBJ Happee Day Shows…Battech Ent Cliff Hanger; Ital International/Technical Park Ferris wheel

Playland Amusements…Kolmax bumper cars

Powers Great American Midways…Kolmax bumper cars, Kolmax Tea Cups

Pride Amusements…Owen Trailers Haunted House

Ray Cammack Shows...Ronald Bussink La Grande XL (R50XL) Observation Wheel; Zamperla Endeavor; Gold Star Manufacturing Puppy roll, Bob's Space Racers 2 Water Race games; Waterloo Tent & Tarp new game tents (800 custom pieces in total) and Waymatic new ticket booths

River City Amusements…Kolmax Tea Cups

River City Carnival…Flachs Rides Ferris wheel

Schmidt Amusements…Luna-Park carousel

Skelley's Amusements…S&S Frog Hopper

Skinner Amusements…Battech Ent. Black Widow

Talley Amusements…Beast — KMG Afterburner

Windy City Amusements…Kolmax bumper cars, Flachs Rides Ferris wheel; SBF/ Visa Drop n' Twist

Wood Entertainment…Sky Eye Wheel — Lamberink RL45 portable observation wheel

Main Street Amusements…SBF Visa 360

CRUISE SHIPS

Carnival Glory…WhiteWater West AquaSpray (Geyser Jets, Solid Stream Jets), AquaPlay, PoolSider, AquaTube

Pacific Dawn…Polin Aquatube x2

Dawn Princess…Polin Aquatube x2

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2017 AMUSEMENT INDUSTRY PREVIEW | INTERNATIONAL

Compiled by Jeffrey Seifert

Albania

City Park Tirana Water Park, Tirana…Polin Wide Slide, Multi Slide, Freefall, Kamikaze, Body Slide, Blackhole, Aquatower, multiple kid's slides
Rostom Park, Tiaret…Galaxy-style coaster relocated from Parc d' attraction Sétif's Land
Zina Beach, Mostaganem…Polin Space Hole, 2x Aquatube, Multislide, Tunnel Freefall, Compact Slide, Body Slide, Aquatube, Sprayactions, mutiple kid's slides

Australia

Aussie World, Sunshine Coast…Crazy Mouse — Zamperla Twister coaster
BIG4 Adventure Whitsunday Resort, Arlie Beach…New water park with muliple slides from TQ Aquatics
Splash, Craigieburn…Polin Tunnel Body Slide, Blackhole
Warner Bros. Movie World, Gold Coast…Mack Rides multi-element coaster

Austria

Familypark, Burgenland…Gockeljagd — motorcycle ride; Waldexpress — train ride
Prater, Vienna…Höllenblitz — Stein indoor, launched coaster with spinning cars (through August 2017)

Bangladesh

Blueland Water Park, Dhaka…Polin Rocket Freefall+Kamikaze+Freefall, Kamikaze+Freefall, Wide Slide, Aquatube, Space Boat, Black Hole+Turbolance

Belgium

Bellewaerde, Leper…Dawson Duel — double Wiegand Alpine Coaster completely automated (no rider-controlled braking)
Comics Station Antwerp, Antwerp…New FEC/indoor theme park with over 60 attractions
Plopsaland De Panne, Adinkerke-De Panne…Heide the Ride — GCII wooden coaster

Bulgaria

Aqualand, Plovdiv…Polin King Cobra

China

Alpine Coaster Wuyuezhai, Wuyuezhai National Park...—Wiegand Alpine Coaster
Atlantis Snaya, Hainan Island…ProSlide SuperLoop with SkyBox, SuperLoop with SkyBox, OctopusRacer, FreeFall, Tornado 18, Tornado 24/ Tornado 24, BehemothBowl 40/ Tornado 60, Tornado 24/ TornadoWave 60, RocketBlast, RideHouse 600, 4-lane Kidz ProRacer, Kidz MiniRiver, Kidz Twister x2, Kidz Bowl 14
Bai Se Bai Dong Waterpark, Guangzhou…ProSlide 8-lane KrakenRacer, SuperLoop with SkyBox, MultiBump, FreeFall,
Bali Water World, Fushun…Indoor and outdoor water park expansion with Wiegand Maezler tube slides, raft slides, body slides, wave machine, kids play area
Evergrande Ocean Flower, Sanya…ProSlide TornadoWave 60, Mammoth, SuperLoop with SkyBox, 6-lane OctopusRacer, RocketBlast, FreeFall with SkyBox, Tornado 24/ Tornado 24/ Tornado 24, BehemothBowl 40/ BehemothBowl 40, Pipeline x2, Tornado 18, CannonBowl 40
Fantawild, Nanning...Vekoma Boomerang coaster; Martin & Vleminckx/Gravity Group wooden coaster
Guangxi Water Park, Guangxi…Polin Family Rafting Slide, Surf Safari
Happy Valley Chongqing, Chongqing…S&S Power Space Shot and Turbo Drop
Hong Kong Disneyland, Honk Kong...Iron Man Experience — 3-D motion simulator
Husyi Brothers Movie World, Suzhou…S&S Power Combo Tower
Maya Water Park, Chongqing…New water park; ProSlide Tornado 60,BehemothBowl 60, Kidz Twister x 3, 2-lane Kidz ProRacer x2, Kidz MiniRiver x2, Twister
Oriental Heritage, Xiamen...Galaxy Express — Vekoma Family Suspended coaster; Jungle Trailblazer — Martin & Vleminckx/Gravity Group wooden coaster
Playa Maya Waterpark, Shenzen…WhiteWater West Master Blaster
Sun Tzu Cultural Park, Shandong…Catapult — S&S Air-Launch coaster; Mine Car — Golden Horse mine train coaster; S&S Power Space Shot and Turbo Drop
Sweetland Egg Water Park, Dalian…ProSlide HydroMagnetic Rocket, Tornado 18, CannonBOWL 40, Octopus-KrakenRacer
Weihai Rio Carnival, Weihai…S&S Power Space Shot and Turbo Drop

Columbia

Piscalago, Girardot…ProSlide TornadoWave 60

Croatia

Aquacolors Porec, Porec…Polin 6-lane Windigo
Mimovec Fun Park, Biograd na Moru…New park with mulitple rides and two coasters, Alien 8 — Beijing Jiuhua Amusement Rides spinning mouse; Space Witch — unknown manufacturer

Denmark

Djurs Sommerland, Nimtofte…DrageKongen — Intamin inverted coaster
Fårup Sommerland, Saltum…Hvirvelvinden — Zamperla Discovery relocated from Liseberg
Tivoli Gardens, Copenhagen…Orangeriet — greenhouse/concert venue

Egypt

Festival Ceasar Palace, Cairo…Polin Rafting Slide, 2 x Compact Slide, Multislide, Kamikaze, 2x Twister, Freefall, Space Hole, Tsunami, multiple kid's slides
Interplaza Mall Egypt, Sharm El Shiekh…Polin Body Slide, Kamikaze, Multislide, Space Hole, Tsunami,Windigo, Black Hole, Turbolance, Looping Rocket, Aquatower, Sprayactions

England

Alton Towers, Alton…CBeebies Land — new themed area with rides and hotel; Go Jetters Vroomster Zoom Ride
Chessington World of Adventures, Chessington…Grüffelo-Ride — redesign of former Bubbleworks ride
Drayton Manor, Drayton Bassett…James and the Red Balloon — Zamperla balloon ride
Great Yarmouth Pleasure Beach, Great Yarmouth…Reverse Time — SBF Visa Reverse Time
Gulliver's Warrington, Warrington…Polin Aquatube, Tipping Bucket, Sprayactions
Legoland Windsor, Windsor…Ninjago the Ride — Triotech interactive dark ride
Southport Pleasureland, Southport…Speed Loop — Pinfari Zyklon ZL42 coaster relocated from Kongeparken

Finland

Särkänniemi Amusement Park, Finland…Hype — Premier Rides Sky Rocket II

France

Atlantic Park, Seignosse…Polin Turbolance, Flying Boat, Black Hole + Rafting Slide
Disneyland Paris, Marne la Vallée…Star Wars Hyperspace Mountain — redesign of Space Mountain indoor coaster; redesigned Star Tours simulator; 25th anniversary parade
Festyland, Bretteville-Sur-Odon…Miolnyr — Zamperla Air Race
Fraispertuis, Jeanménil…Golden Driller — Intamin drop tower with varying passenger vehicles
Futuroscope, Jaunay-Clan…L'Extraordinaire Voyage — Dynamic Attractions flying theater (opened December 2016)
Parc Astérix, Plailly…Pégase Express — Gerstlauer launched coaster
Parc Bagatelle, Merlimont…Silver Wings — Zamperla Air Race
Parc du Bocasse, Bocasse…Le Splash-O-Saure — Soquet flume ride
Parc du Petit Prince, Ungersheim…Serpent — Zierer Force Two
Puy du Fou, Les Epesses…Le Grand Carillon — new musical spectacle featuring 53-foot bell tower; La Citadelle — medieval-themed hotel

Germany

Bayern Park, Reisbach…Pirateninsal (Pirate Island) — children's water sprayground
Chrupfalzpark, Loifling…Freefall Tower; Flying Dragon; Schauckelschiff Fantasy Train; Kids Top Spin
Eifelpark, Gondorf…Käpt'n Jack's Wilde Maus — Maurer Rides Wild Mouse relocated from Holiday Park
Erlebnispark Schloss Thurn, Heroldsbach…SBF-Visa Freefall Tower
Erlebnispark Steinau, Steinau an der Straße…Erlis Wackelstein — Zierer Kontiki; Schubkarrenrennen — Metalworking Kirschner Wheelbarrow Race
Erlebnispark Tripsdrill, Cleebron…Höhenflug — Gerstaluer Sky Fly
Europa Park, Rust…Voletarium — Brogent Technologies Flying Theater with audio video by Kraftwerk
Ferienzentrum Schloss Dankern, Haren…Eine Reise durch das Mittelalter — abc Rides roller coaster
Fort Fun Abenteuerland, Wasserfall…New Funkid train for Speed Snake roller coaster
Freizeitpark Geiselwind, Geiselwind…Multiple new children's rides; Extrem — propeller ride; Tower of Fear — drop ride
Freizeitpark Plohn, Lengenfeld…Drachenwirbel — SBF Visa compact spinning coaster
Freizeitpark Ruhpolding, Ruhpolding…Wasserhüpfer and Wasserwirbel — raft slides
Hansa Park, Sierksdorf…Kleine Zar — Preston & Barbieri mini coaster; Gerstlauer Sky Fly
Heide Park, Soltau…Ghostbusters 5D — Triotech interactive dark ride with ride system from Zierer
Holiday Park, Hassloch…Wasserski Rondell — Zierer Jet Ski
Legoland Deutschland, Günzburg…Ninjago the Ride — Triotech interactive dark ride

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Movie Park Germany, Bottrop…Star Trek: Operation Enterprise — Mack Rides launch coaster
Skyline Park, Bad Wörishofen…Sky Dragster — Maurer Rides spike coaster; Kids Spin — SBF Visa compact spinning coaster

Greece

Amada Colossos Resort, Rhodes…Polin Body Slide, Rafting Slide+Blackhole, Freefall, Space Hole, Multislide
Grecotel Olympia Riviera, Kuyllini…Polin Multisurf, Flying Boats+Blackhole Combo, Rafting Slide, Looping Rocket, Wave Slide, Space Hole, Aquatower, Sprayactions

India

Amaazia Water Park, Surat…New water park (December 2016) with Polin looping rocket with launch capsule, Black Hole, Black Hole/Tubolance, Uphill Navigatour/Black Hole, Space Boat, Twiester Racer/Windigo. Freefall/Body Slide combo, water play structure, wave pool, lazy river, rain dance floor

Iraq

Bagdadland, Baghdad…Polin King Cobra, Black Hole+Uphill Navigatour, Racer Slide+Space Boat Bowl, Turbolance, Surf Safari, Looping Rocket, Space Hole Bowl, 4x Windigo, Aquatube+Body Slide, Black Hole+Flying Boats, Rafting Slide+Flying Boats, 2x Kamikaze, Freefall, multiple kid's products

Ireland

Tayto-Park, Ashbourne…Viking Village — new themed area with Viking Voyage — Interlink flume ride

Italy

Etnaland, Belpasso…ProSlide 4-lane Kidz ProRacer, Kidz MiniRiver, Kidz Twister, RideHouse 300

Japan

Fuji-Q Highland, Fujiyoshida…Dodonpa — ride enhancements from S&S Worldwide
Kijima Kogen, Beppu…Jupiter — PTCI refurbishment of coaster trains
Legoland Japan, Nagoya...New theme park; Dragon Coaster — Zierer Force-Five; Dragon's Apprentice — Zamperla gravity coaster; multiple attractions including Merlin's Flying Machines — Zamperla Magic Bikes; submarine attraction; observation tower; splash battle
Nagashima Spa Land, Nagashima…S&S Power 4-D Free Spin coaster

Kazakhstan

Climket Hotel, Shymkent…Polin Freefall, Aquatube, Space Hole, Body Slide, Black Hole, Multi Slide, Aquatower, multiple children's slides

Kosovo

Ujevara Waterpark, Ferizaj…Polin Multislide, Black Hole, Body Slide, Space Hole, Kamikaze, Aquatube, Rafting Slide, Wave Slide, Splash Touch, Aquatower, multiple kid's slides

Malaysia

Big Adventure Waterpark, Desaru…ProSlide Tornado 60, Tornado 24/ Tornado 24/ Tornado 24 (Hybrid), Tornado 18, CannonBowl 30, KIDZ Twister, 2-lane Kidz ProRacer, 4-lane Kidz ProRacer, Kidz MiniRiver, Kidz Bowl 14, Kidz Tornado 12, RideHouse 500
Borneo Samariang Resort City, Kuching…Proslide Mammoth, SuperLoop with SkyBox, 6-lane ProRacer, Pipeline,Twister, CannonBowl 30, RideHouse 200, Kidz Twister x2, Kidz MiniRiver, KIDZ ProRacer, Kidz Bowl 14
Langkawi Water Fantasy, Kuala Lumpur…Polin Surf Safari, Multi-Slide, Body Slide, Aquatube, Flying Boats+Black Hole, Navigatour+Black Hole, Turbolance, Family Rafting Slide, Wide Slide, Aquatower
Movie Animation Park Studios, Perak…Casper Birthday Blast — Sally interactive dark ride; Asteroid Attack — SBF Visa spinning coaster; Mr. Peabody & Sherman's Time Adventure — indoor coaster; Intamin 10-inversion coaster

Netherlands

Attractiepark Duinen Zath, Appelscha…Roller Coaster — Pinfari Zyklon Z47 from traveling showman
Attractiepark Slagharen, Slagharen…Gold Rush — Gerstlauer Infinity coaster
Efteling, Kaatsheuvel…Symbolica: Palace of Fantasy — ETF dark ride
Walibi Holland, Biddinghuizen…Der Rapids Ride — new boats from Vekoma

Poland

Energylandia, Zator…Speed — Intamin Water Coaster; Boomerang — Vekoma Family Boomerang coaster; Dragon Coaster — SBF Visa M600D powered train;
Slaskie Wesołe Miasteczko, Chorzów…Lech Coaster — Vekoma multi-element coaster

Russia

Aquaworld Water Park, Novosibirsk...New water park (October 2016); WhiteWater West Manta, AquaCouse, AquaLoop, AquaSphere, Constrictor, Space Bowl, body and tube slides.
Grozny Waterpark, Grozny…Polin Windigo (3 lanes), Aquatube, Looping Rocket, Black Hole, Magic Hole, Aquatower and multiple kids slides
Lermonovo, Krasnodar…Polin Windigo (4 Lanes), Looping Rocket, Body Slide, Blackhole + Flying Boats + Rafting + Slide + Black Hole Combination, Space Boat, Sphere, Blackhole + Flying Boat + Black Hole + Turbolance, kids'pirte ship and other kids attractions
Wonder Island/Divo Ostrov, Saint Petersburg…Intamin 10-inversion coaster

South Korea

Hampyeong Water Park, Hampyeong…Polin wide slide and compact slide
Lotte World, Sokcho…ProSlide RocketBlast, ProBowl, Twister, RideHouse100
Park Habio, Seoul…ProSlide CannonBowl 30, Twister, Pipeline
Shinwha World Jeju, Jeju…ProSlide Double TornadoWave 60, FlyingSaucer30, RocketBlast, Tornado 32/ Tornado 32, Pipeline x3

Spain

Ferrari Land, Salou…Red Force — Intamin LSM-launch coaster
PortAventura, Salou…S&S Power Combo Tower

Sweden

Furuvik, Gävle…Fireball — Vekoma family boomerang coaster
Gröna Lund, Stockholm…Ikaros — Intamin Skyfall drop tower
Liseberg, Gothenburg…Loke — Intamin Gyro Swing
Vikingaliv - Life of Vikings, Stockholm…Ragnfrid's Saga — ETF Ride Systems/ P&P Projects dark ride

Taiwan

E-Da World, Kaohsiung...Wiegand 38-meter dry slide

Thailand

Siam Park City, Bangkok…ProSlide 4-lane Kidz ProRacer, Kidz MiniRiver, Kidz Twister, RideHouse 300

Trinidad and Tobago

Five Islands Waterpark, Chuguarmas…New water park; ProSlide RideHouse 250, Kidz MiniRiver, 2-lane Kidz ProRacer, Kidz Tornado 12, Kidz Bowl 14, Kidz Twister

Turkey

Ankapark, Ankara…New park with 16 coasters and multiple rides — delayed from 2016
Granada Luxury Belek Resort Waterpark, Antalya…Polin Kamikaze, Twister, Flying Boats+Black Hole+Navigatour+Black Hole, Rafting Slide, Black Hole, Space Hole, Body Slide, Freefall, Rafting Slide, Jungle-themed AquaTower
Royal Seginus Resort Water Park, Antalya…Polin King Cobra, Body Slide, Kamikaze, Freefall, Multislide, Rafting Slide, Sphere, Flying Boats

UAE

Al Montazah, Sharjah…Polin Wide Slide, Freefall, Aquatube, Body Slide, Space Hole, Mini Turbolance, Kids Wideslide, Kids Aquatube, kid's slides
Atlantis the Palm, Dubai…ProSlide Kidz ProRacer, Kidz Bowl 14, Twister, Kidz MiniRiver, Kidz Pipeline
Ferrari World, Abu Dhabi…Turbo Track — Intamin LIM-launch coaster
Motiongate Dubai, Dubai…New park (December 2016); Capital Bullet Rain — Mack Rides launch coaster; Dragon Gliders — Mack Rides powered suspended dark-ride/coaster-style system; Green Hornet — Gerstlauer bobsled coaster; Hot Pursuit — Gerstlauer Infinity coaster; Smurf Village Express — Gerstlauser family coaster; Shrek's Fairy Tale Journey — interactive dark ride; Panem Aerial Tour — 3-D motion simulator; King Fu Panda: Unstoppable Awesomeness — 3-D motion simulator

Ukraine

Cherkasy Waterpark, Cherkasy…Polin Aquatube, Aquatube, Space Hole + Tunnel Body Slide
Respublika, Kiev…Vekoma junior coaster; Maurer Rides spinning coaster

Vietnam

Alpine Coaster Halongbay, Halong City...Wiegand double Alpine Coaster
Asia Park, Da Nang...Highway Boat — Premier Rides suspended coaster relocated from Hard Rock Park; Paradise Fall — Premier Rides Ferris wheel lift coaster relocated from Hard Rock Park
Dragon Park, Ha Long...New park; Dragon's Run — B&M roller coaster relocated from Hard Rock Park; Little Dragon's Flight — Vekoma Suspended Family Coaster; Mysterious Journey — Vekoma junior coaster
Typhoon Cove Waterpark, Ha Long Bay…ProSlide Tornado 60, BehemothBowl 60, TornadoWave 60, Tornado 24/ Tornado 24/ Tornado 24 (Hybrid), RideHouse 600

Wales

Oakwood Theme Park, Nartberth…Flight of the Peach — Pinfari RC40 coaster relocated from M&Ds Scotland
Zip World, Betws-y-Coed…Pforest Coaster — Wiegand Alpine Coaster

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2017 Amusement Industry Preview
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INTERNATIONAL

▸ Disneyland Paris celebrates 25th anniversary / Ferrari World Abu Dhabi adds Intamin coaster— Page 20

‘Hype’ is building for new launch coaster at Särkänniemi

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Hype will be a standout attraction at Finland’s Särkänniemi theme park. COURTESY SÄRKÄNNIEMI THEME PARK

TAMPERE, Finland — The “hype” is building at Finnish park Särkänniemi as the venue’s latest attraction, a spectacular new roller coaster, is completed for the 2017 season.

Designed and manufactured by Premier Rides, the ride is the first high-tech, triple-launched coaster experience in the Nordic region. Hype is a multilaunch coaster that is based on the award-winning Superman Ultimate Flight located at Six Flags Discovery Kingdom in Vallejo, California. It has the most current launch system technology available in the industry and with the exception of the coaster train itself, there are virtually no moving parts on the ride, making it extremely reliable and maintenance friendly.

Riders are first launched out of the station up to a height of 15 meters (49 feet). Gravity then pulls them rapidly back into the station where they are launched backward up to a height of 30 meters (98.5 feet). Again gravity takes control and brings the train through the station once more where the final launch is energized and riders shoot up a vertical twisting track to the highest point on the ride where a tantalizing slow roll places guests upside down approximately 45 meters (147 feet) in the air — a record for the Nordic region. After executing the roll, guests enter a face-first vertical drop, ending in a twisting loop where they experience exciting Gs. The riders then drop toward ground level where the train once more speeds through the station and then is smoothly braked using magnetic technology as it comes to a stop in the station.

Hype is the first new roller coaster at Särkänniemi in nearly a decade and is the largest investment in the park’s history.

“A professionally themed Hype Square, an urban, modern and vividly colorful area, will be built around the ride,” the park stated. “This area will host a new two-story restaurant with a lakeside terrace and souvenir shop, along with many other Hype-themed elements. The marketing campaign for Hype will feature a famous Finnish pop-singer, whose identity will be revealed later in the spring.

“Hype is the first triple-launch roller coaster in the Nordic countries and also the highest launch coaster in Finland. It accelerates to a maximum speed of 100 kmh and launches passengers vertically to 45 meters (147 feet) above the ground. At its highest point the track makes an inversion and drops passengers straight down into a vertical loop before returning to the station.”

Miika Seppälä, managing director of Särkänniemi, commented: “We selected Premier Rides because we wanted to make a major statement and to create a signature experience at Särkänniemi Theme Park that will be appreciated by our loyal guests. Hype is just that. The collaboration with Premier Rides has allowed us to produce something that will be truly iconic for the park.”

Särkänniemi’s summer season began on April 29 and Hype will be operational in mid-June.

The new Hype coaster is the largest single investment in the history of Särkänniemi and the park’s first new coaster in almost a decade. Hype has been designed and manufactured by Premier Rides. COURTESY SÄRKÄNNIEMI THEME PARK

WATER PARKS & RESORTS

Epic Waters in Grand Prairie, Texas aims for new record — Page 28

Beautiful indoor water park, AquaWorld, opens in Russia

WhiteWater West chosen to supply 13 total slides

A 40,000-square-meter indoor water park has recently opened in Novosibirsk, Russia. The park is part of the 100,000-square-meter complex by Kvarsis that opened in October 2016. WhiteWater West was selected to provide 13 slides to the indoor water park. Above, this vista shows the various slides, stairs and wave pool. Below, the highlight of the water park is the massive 12-meter-high Manta slide. Bottom left, the park's AquaLoop,AquaSphere and Constrictor slide. Bottom right, the park's wooden ceiling design hovers over the pools and lounge chair areas. COURTESY WHITEWATER

NOVOSIBIRSK, Russia — Europe's first Manta can be found at Kvarsis' AquaWorld "Akvamir" Waterpark in Novosibirsk, Russia. The impressive 12-meter-high, blue-and-white wings of the Manta dwarf the riders in their raft, making great photo ops for the guests standing on the viewing platform. It's one of 13 slides, all from WhiteWater, in the 40,000-square-meter indoor water park. However, it is the company's Manta that has really become the iconic attraction.

The ride experience is as exciting as its appearance. As riders near the end of the enclosed flume, the monstrous walls of the ride are revealed, building the anticipation for what's to come. What happens next is a heart-pumping drop into the Manta valley below, before the raft rises up the other side to reach a zero-gravity apex followed by a drop back down, then up the other side, and so on, until reaching the Manta's tail, for a total ride length of 138.5 meters.

AquaWorld is part of a larger, 100,000 square meter complex, which opened in October 2016, after three years of construction. The largest water park in Russia not only features a Manta, but other high thrill rides such as AquaSphere, Constrictor, and Space Bowl. "With a total length of one kilometer, our 13 waterslides, including Europe's first Manta, were designed, constructed, manufactured, and installed to world safety standards," said Shurupov Vladislav, deputy director of AquaWorld by Kvarsis.

To build a world-class water park, Kvarsis tasked WhiteWater with helping them create no ordinary destination. "WhiteWater understood our ambition to create the biggest and most unique water park in Russia," commented Vladislav. Checking all the boxes, AquaWorld is an impressive assortment of attractions designed to entertain and thrill guests of all ages.

"It was great to work with a team who has the vision to bring their city the very best water park possible, and the result is one of the most beautiful indoor parks I have seen," commented Valentin Elson, WhiteWater's vice president of business development for Russia and Eastern Europe.

Open year-round, AquaWorld aims to attract 1.5 million guests this year from the Siberian capital and surrounding area.

PARKS, FAIRS & ATTRACTIONS

▸ **Larson Intl. supplies two new Tilt-A-Whirls — Page 38 / Fairs — Pages 42-48**

Flurry of pre-season developments at theme park

Knott's dives into VR game, retires Boomerang shuttle coaster

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BUENA PARK, Calif. — More than two months before the official start of summer, and well before it was set to unveil several previously announced new rides in both its theme park and adjacent Soak City water park, Knott's Berry Farm was making news in earnest.

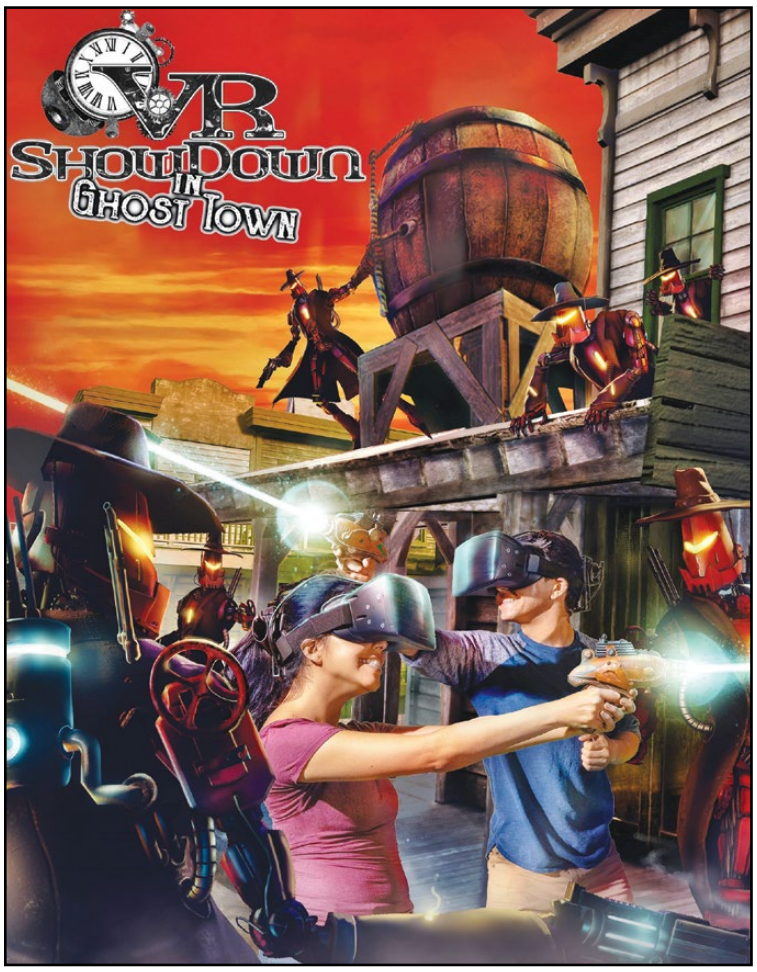
The developments occurred before and during the park's annual Knott's Boysenberry Festival. The increasingly popular event itself, with food and entertainment centered around the historic former farm and roadside stand's signature berry, was extended a full week this year — running April 1-23.

In late March, Knott's and parent company Cedar Fair Entertainment, in collaboration with Bellevue, Wash.-based VRstudios, previewed VR Showdown in Ghost Town. The first permanent installation of a free-roaming multiplayer virtual reality experience in a U.S. theme park, it officially opened to the public April 1.

"We are always looking for new and exciting ways to entertain our guests," said Christian Dieckmann, VP of strategic growth for Cedar Fair. "By using a free-roaming system, we can take full advantage of the capabilities of VR and let our guests be the stars of the show. A majority of people have not yet experienced VR, and we anticipate there will be a lot of interest from guests to have their first taste at our park."

Located inside the Boardwalk Arcade, the custom installation invites guests on a time travel adventure that transports them to a futuristic version of Knott's western town of Calico. Players will be met by robotic creations and characters as they embark on a mission, with up to three other players, to defend the town.

The experience, which incorporates the old Knott's time travel character Professor Welles (whom the park's fans will recall from the Kingdom of the Dinosaurs dark ride previously housed in the arcade building), combines VR technology with a competitive, 360-degree gaming realm. Armed with state-of-the-art wireless VR headsets and futuristic blasters, players compete for the highest score while pursuing shared team goals. Participants are able to view and compare scores at the end.



VR Showdown in Ghost Town, a collaboration between Knott's Berry Farm, parent company Cedar Fair Entertainment and virtual reality technology leader VRstudios, is located inside the park's Boardwalk Arcade.
COURTESY KNOTT'S BERRY FARM

Knott's Berry Farm retired Boomerang, its 1990-built Vekoma reverse shuttle coaster, on April 23 — the last day of the park's 2017 Boysenberry Festival. No word yet on what will replace the ride. AT FILE

VR Showdown in Ghost Town is available to guests at an introductory price of $6, in addition to park admission.

While it's in with the new at the Boardwalk Arcade, elsewhere in the Boardwalk section at Knott's, it is — to the likely dismay of roller coaster enthusiasts — out with the old: Boomerang, the park's Vekoma reverse shuttle coaster, was retired after giving its final rides on April 23.

Boomerang replaced the park's landmark, 1975-built Corkscrew coaster, designed by Arrow Development, in 1990. The two-minute, double-lift ride sent its single train forward and backward through three inversions along 875 feet of track.

Knott's had not revealed what will occupy the space vacated by Boomerang before *Amusement Today* went to press.

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BUSINESS, SAFETY & CLASSIFIED

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At organization's 104th Annual Meeting

NEAAPA inducts Justine Brewer into Hall Of Fame

AT: *Ron Gustafson*
Special to Amusement Today

SPRINGFIELD, Mass.— **Justine Brewer**, who, along with her family, owns and operates **Southwick's Zoo** in Mendon, Mass., was inducted into the **New England Association of Amusement Parks and Attractions** (NEAAPA) Hall of Fame during the organization's 104th Anniversary Annual Meeting and Education Conference.

The March 28 gala had 104 in attendance at the Sheraton Springfield Monarch Place Hotel here.

"It's a great honor," she said of the tribute. "It left me speechless and totally amazed! I can think of many members that are more deserving than me."

As a former member of NEAAPA's board of directors, Justine and her family have also supported the association for many years.

The Southwick's homestead dates back to 1803 when its founding Southwick family acquired the land, planted vegetable gardens, established peach orchards, and milked dairy cows for the local community supply as well as for the family.

It grew as a working dairy farm through 1952. **Justin Southwick**, his wife **Clarice**, along with their three children **Justine**, **Sandra** and **Daniel**, all worked together to keep the farm viable.

With the high school graduation of his daughter, Justine, and the other children soon to follow, Justin decided to sell the dairy herd and concentrate on his passion and interest with exotic birds and migratory waterfowl. He was a true wildlife conservation pioneer and would become a leader in the field of migratory waterfowl.

NEAAPA Hall Of Fame inductee Justine Brewer (left) holds the award with new association president Dorothy Lewis. At the podium is Hall of Fame committee chairman Ed Connor, a past president and Hall of Fame member.
COURTESY NEAAPA

Justine married **Robert Brewer** in 1955 and it wasn't long before they were busy raising a family in Westborough, Mass. During this time, Sandra married and moved to Connecticut and Daniel married but continued to work beside his father.

Exotic animals added

With a donation box out to gather some much needed income, Justin and Daniel expanded the farm to include exotic animals. Together they constructed enclosures to house the new residents of what was now fondly referred to as **Southwick Animal Farm**.

Southwick's grew rapidly, especially through word of mouth. It was not long before visitors traveled from many miles away to view what was happening in Mendon. It also became apparent that Robert and Justine were needed to help with the growing business.

They moved with their four children to Justine's original home and soon had their fifth child. In 1965 the farm was officially incorporated as **Southwick Wild Animal Farm**. With Robert's business expertise and Justine's ability to juggle family and work, the farm became quite successful. In addition, with Daniel traveling all over the world as an expert animal dealer and Justin with his vision, the farm was developing into a highly respected zoological park.

Another venture

In 1970 the Brewers were offered an opportunity to purchase **Santa's Land** in Putney, Vt. Leaving Southwick's wasn't easy but they heard a different calling and they left Mendon that summer.

Within a year, Justin passed from a heart attack. However, Daniel remained with the business. The demand to keep a private zoological park was intense, but Dan nurtured the business until his untimely death in 1977.

Dan's passing put a serious strain on the business and Southwick's went through some troubled years.

In 1981, with the request of family and Clarice Southwick, Justin's widow, the Brewers returned to the homestead to help rebuild the family animal farm. It was renamed Southwick's Zoo, and Robert remained as president until his death in 1995, when Justine then took over the position.

Under the direction of Justine Southwick Brewer, her son, Peter, took the position as president in 2016. Southwick's Zoo remains the largest zoo in New England with more than 850 animals on 200 acres of prime land in the Blackstone Valley. A half-million visitors come through the gates each season from April thru October.

Justine became the 37th person to join the prestigious Hall since it was founded in 1998.

Others honored

The evening included other annual awards presented by NEAAPA.

Outgoing President **Ryan DeMaria**, **Canobie Lake Park**, Salem, N.H., presented the President's Award to **Erik Beard**, **Wiggin & Dana, LLP**, Hartford, Conn.

NEAAPA Awards Committee Chairman **John Guertin**, **Guertin Graphics & Awards**, Worcester, Mass., presented the following awards:

•The **Paragon Award**, for excellence in graphic promotion, was awarded to **Six Flags New England**, Agawam, Mass. for its GradNite promotion.

•The **Pinnacle Award**, presented to a student employee that has demonstrated "peak perfection in guest/customer service" was given to **Frank Hamedl**, ride supervisor at **Quassy Amusement & Waterpark**, Middlebury, Conn. He also received a $500 cash award from the association.

•The **Alan E. Ramsay Safety Award** was presented to **Marie Provost**, **Six Flags New England**.

•The **Meritorious Service Award** was presented to **Paul Cavanaugh**, **Daly Cavanaugh, LLP,** Wellesley, Mass.

New president

Those in attendance also elected a new president: **Dorothy Lewis**, **Xpress Posts**, Danbury, Conn., during the general business meeting.

Workshop topics during the day included social media and livestreaming, ADA compliance, tourism marketing, birthday parties, regional employment regulation changes, and networking with new people.

NEAAPA will hold its Annual Summer Meeting on Tuesday, July 25, at **Edaville USA** in Carver, Mass.

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Museum Progress Report

This space is provided courtesy of *Amusement Today*, a corporate partner of the National Roller Coaster Museum & Archives.

Side friction coaster car mystery solved!

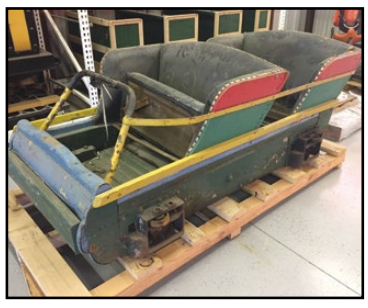
The identity of the anonymous red and green roller coaster car in the March issue ***AT*** (page 37) appears to be no longer a mystery. It seems the car has been well traveled and is survived by two siblings. While it has spent most of its mileage in the Philadelphia area, the longest trip it ever took was from the loading dock at **Philadelphia Toboggan Company** in Lansdale, Pa., to **Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk** in beautiful Santa Cruz, Calif.

Tom Rebbie, president of Philadelphia Toboggan Coasters (PTC), was surprised to see the photo of the car, and quickly called both the **NRCMA** and *AT* to explain the rich history of the wayward side friction car. He claims that in late 1980, during the demolition of **Willow Grove Park**, in Montgomery County, Pa., the late **Samuel H. High III**, then president of PTC, accompanied him along with a crew to rescue some early equipment at the park. High had permission to remove some side friction cars from the old Scenic Coaster. The ride, built in 1896, had a few replacement cars sitting near the station. Tom remembered loading the company truck with three side friction cars from the Nickel Scenic, while a short distance away a wrecking crew was busy bringing down the Alps, the last **L.A. Thompson** Scenic Railway in the Western Hemisphere.

Back in Lansdale, the best car of the three was rehabilitated, while the other two cars sat on the end of the loading dock for several years. According to Rebbie, High eventually sent one car to his friend **Charles Canfield** in Santa Cruz. The second car found a home at

Above, PTC's fully restored side friction coaster car from Willow Grove Park. Below, NRCMA's car from the same ride, donated by Charles Canfiled, Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk.

COURTESY PTC; NRCMA FILE



Kings Island after **Charles Dinn** mentioned his interest in having the artifact, during the construction of The Beast. He doesn't know what happened to the Kings Island car, but the restored car, adorned with the company logo and painted white and gold, has been moved into the company's conference room for all visitors to admire. Meanwhile, the Canfield donation now sits in Plainview, Texas, waiting for its own spot in the limelight.

Rebbie pointed to his company Facebook page for more information. The painstaking move of the car into the conference room is well-documented with photographs:

"An old friend returned to our office and has found a home in our conference room. This beautiful antique PTC coaster car once rode the tracks of The Nickel Scenic Roller Coaster, one of Willow Grove Park's famous rides. The back used to state that old and now famous line, 'Life is Lark.' In the late 1970s, Sam High III, then president of PTC, headed to Willow Grove Park...he brought along with him three employees, one of whom was coaster shop foreman Tom Rebbie. They brought the coaster car back to the PTC shop and two employees refurbished it to its former glory. Once the restoration was finished, Sam took the two-seat coaster car to his home. It was placed in Sam's family room, providing his grandchildren over 20 years of enjoyment, and was quite a conversation piece. After Sam passed away in 2011, the fate of the coaster car found its way to auction. This spring, Tom Rebbie, company president, ***Janine Rebbie****, administrative assistant, and* ***Alex Nagel****, company archivist, discovered the coaster car up for auction and attended with the goal of bringing a piece of history home to PTCI. It was a successful trip. After arriving back at PTCI's shop, the coaster car was touched up and given a little tender love... [afterward] moving this stunning piece of history into our office conference room."*

Thanks, Tom, for clearing up one mystery. For me, that's one down and thousands of unidentified cars and photos to go!

—Richard Munch, NRCMA Historian

THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

Presented by the National Rollercoaster Museum

AT: *Richard Munch*

MAY

•1906: The new amusement center, **Luna Park**, opened on May 28, in Four Mile Run in Arlington, Va. What was just a field with some rocky outcroppings six months earlier was now a full-fledged park with numerous rides and attractions. *The Washington Post* reported: "There are 30 places of entertainment along the great trail waiting to welcome large crowds of pleasure seekers. The new **Ingersoll** enterprise, will open on Monday…everything is in readiness for the opening, and thousands will doubtless make their way to the summer amusement city built in the hills, to enjoy the cool breezes and numerous attractions of the place." The park also opened with a Figure Eight roller coaster and a Chutes among its rides. Unfortunately, a disastrous fire in April 1915 would spell the end of the famous park, which was located just south of Washington, D.C.

•1907: Opening on May 29, Atlanta, Ga.'s newest park, the **White City**, brought another amusement center to the growing metropolis. The advertisements for the new season would suggest the new facility was a pleasure resort, park and picnic grounds combined. *The Atlanta Constitution* claimed the park was built at an immense capital expense and included all kinds of new and fine pleasure devices. This would include a Figure Eight roller coaster, the second in the city (the other at **Ponce De Leon Park**). The auspicious opening, despite the cloudy weather, had thousands of people in attendance, with the trolleys lined up at the main entrance. Those who visited had only words of praise for the new amusement resort, culminating with the brilliant scene after dark when artificial light made the midway glow.

•1908: Electric Park, in Baltimore, Md., opened the season on May 30 with a new line of attractions and buildings, including a new Scenic Railway, the Dazy Dazer, designed by **Breinig Construction Company**. At 50 feet high, with a track length of 2900 feet, it opened in early June, headlining a new group of attractions presented during the 1908 season. With a new management team in control, they hired architects **Copeland and Dole** fresh from their design work at the **Jamestown Exposition** to assist with park expansion, including a new ballroom. The park also added a grand carousel, Shoot the Shoots (Chutes) and Helter Skelter. It marked the park's largest expansion in its short history.

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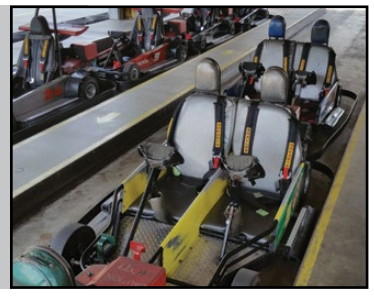

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